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CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS



OF

Sailors' Aid Society

FOR THE

FREE CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S,

FOR SAILORS,

BOSTON.



BOSTON:

RICKER & CROCKETT, PRINTERS, 4 WILLIAMS COURT.

1862.

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SAILORS' AID SOCIETY.

MAY 20 1889

LIST OF OFFICERS.

MRS. ELISHA G. TUCKER, *President.*

MRS. GEORGE C. SHATTUCK, *Vice President.*

MRS. JOHN C. BOYD, *Secretary.*

MISS E. C. MARLAND, *Treasurer.*

DIRECTORS.

MRS. PETER HUBBELL,
MRS. R. B. HITCHCOCK,
MRS. FRANCIS J. PARKER,
MRS. B. S. CODMAN,
MRS. CHARLES A. LAMBARD,
MRS. EDWARD TYLER,
MRS. EDWARD S. BABBITT,
MRS. WILLIAM G. BROOKS,
MISS K. S. PARKER,
MISS C. W. SHEAFE,
MISS MARY LAWTON,
MISS VIRGINIA CHASE.

Honorary Member of the Board,

MRS. JOHN P. ROBINSON.



CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SAILORS' AID SOCIETY.

- ART. 1. This Association shall be called the "SAILORS' AID SOCIETY FOR THE FREE CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S FOR SAILORS," Boston.
- ART. 2. The object of this Society is to aid shipwrecked and destitute Seamen, and to give assistance to the industrious women of their families.
- ART. 3. Persons may become members of this Society by paying two dollars annually. The payment of twenty-five dollars constitutes life-membership, and exempts from annual assessment.
- ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve Directors.
- ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings, and sign all orders on the Treasurer. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside and fulfil the duties of the President.

- ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record all proceedings of the Society, to give notice of meetings, and to make an annual report of the proceedings of the Society.
- ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep an account of the receipts and expenditures of the Society and to collect the annual subscriptions.
- ART. 8. The Board of Directors shall hold business meetings on the last Tuesday of each month.
They shall have power to fill any vacancy that may occur in their body between the annual meetings; may make their own By-laws, provided they are not repugnant to this Constitution; and may adopt such measures as they shall deem necessary and expedient to further the interests of the Society.
- ART. 9. In filling vacancies that may occur in the Board, there shall be, if possible, a representation from the different Parishes of this city and vicinity, and as far as practicable, an equal distribution in the number of Directors from each Parish.
- ART. 10. The annual meeting of this Society shall be held on Wednesday in Easter week, to elect officers, and to receive the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer. Special meetings may be called by the President at the request of three members.
- ART. 11. This Constitution may be amended at the annual meeting.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Stated meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held on the last Tuesday of each month, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

All meetings shall be opened with prayer.

Questions shall be decided by a vote of the majority of members present.

Seven members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE II.

At stated meetings the order of business shall be as follows:

1. Minutes of the last stated meeting and of subsequent meetings shall be read.

2. Report of receipts and expenditures by the Treasurer.

3. Report of Committees, and action upon the same.

4. Written communications.

5. Appointment of Committee for the month.

6. Nomination, or election to vacancies in the Board of Directors.

7. Unfinished business of previous meetings.

8. Motions, orders, resolutions, &c.

ARTICLE III.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify all regular and special meetings of the Board and of the Society, the

object of the special meeting being stated in the notice. She shall have charge of all documents and records of the Society, excepting those connected with the office of Treasurer, and shall conduct the correspondence, preserve copies of communications, and keep a record of all donations other than money.

ARTICLE IV.

The Treasurer shall keep a list of subscribers, and render a monthly and annual report of receipts and expenditures.

ARTICLE V.

There shall be appointed at each stated meeting a Committee of two, who shall attend to the cutting out and distributing of clothing, and of such other articles as may be sent to the Society. They shall keep a record, and render a written report of their work at the next stated meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE VI.

Vacancies in the Board of Directors may be filled at any stated or special meeting, and no candidate shall be elected except by the vote of a majority of the whole Board.

ARTICLE VII.

An auditor shall be appointed to examine and affix his signature to all accounts prior to their presentation to the Society at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

Amendments to the foregoing By-laws may be proposed at one meeting, and adopted or rejected at the following meeting of the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

By the tender mercies of an Infinite and loving Father, we have been permitted to attain to this, the second anniversary of our Society.

In consideration of the numberless blessings that have been lavished upon us, and the reward that has crowned our labors during the past year, is it not fitting that we should prelude the Report, now to be submitted for your approval, with an humble acknowledgment of thankful indebtedness to Him, without whom "nothing is sure, nothing is steadfast?" Let us then render thanks most devoutly to God for all his goodness, and enter upon this new year with hearts more in earnest, and hands more willing to labor for those whom the cloud of misfortune has, in many respects, most heavily overshadowed.

Though yet in its very infancy, and laboring under corresponding disadvantages, we have every encouragement in believing that our Society is in a condition of healthful progression. And with the smile of Divine approval resting upon it, may we not hope to witness in the future the realization of our sincerest desires?

The object of this Society, as expressed in the Constitution, is—"To aid shipwrecked and destitute seamen, and to give assistance to the industrious women of their families."

How far we have been able to fulfil these requirements, we will endeavor briefly to illustrate. During five working

months of the past year, there have been cut and given to workwomen, 281 flannel under-garments, which upon completion have been transferred to Rev. Mr. Robinson, for distribution among the poor and destitute seamen who are constantly calling for sympathy and assistance. Much more than this might have been accomplished with the requisite funds, but a deficiency in this all-important particular has compelled us to confine our efforts almost exclusively within the limits of the winter months—these being always the most trying for the poor—many of whom depend almost wholly upon their needles for the small income, which, at best, provides them but inadequately with means for their comfort.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Rev. Mr. Robinson, our labors in their behalf have been greatly facilitated by the appropriation of a room in proximity with St. Mary's Church, where we have been enabled to cut and distribute our work; thus affording a convenient and comfortable apartment for this purpose in the desired locality, and the greater advantage in the opportunity offered for learning more of the spiritual condition of our work-women. At the same time that we are engaged in contributing to their temporal necessities, we have it in our power to throw around them such influences as shall tend to elevate their souls above the routine of manual labor; and teach them that we have a higher purpose in our charity, than merely to place in their hands the elements for their material comfort.

In response to a call from Rev. Mr. Robinson, 33 pairs of warm well-knit woolen socks were furnished by the ladies; acknowledgement of which was duly rendered.

We have received most encouraging assurances of the usefulness of our organization. Though necessarily limited in carrying out our full designs for want of adequate means,

many a brave son of the sea has been made the happy recipient of our charities; and doubtless has blessed God in his own humble way for mercies received.

Among the seamen supplied with clothing during the month of January last, were the crew of a vessel from Annapolis, N. S., wrecked on the night of the 1st of January, about four miles from Provincetown. They were wholly dependent on the aid afforded by this Society. Three of the men were in the habit of attending St. Mary's when in Port.

That these hardy and often unprepossessing men have warm, and grateful, and often religious hearts, we have most convincing evidence. And if appealed to in the right way, they will sometimes exhibit a simplicity and child-like trust, not always found in those whose surroundings have been most exemplary and consistent. A touching instance of the elements of goodness dwelling in the heart of seamen was related by one of our Clergymen at the last annual meeting of this Society, which proved their susceptibility to good—needing only the right development to make them Christians. A vessel was wrecked on the coast of Kaffraria. There was a boy on board. No one knew to whom he belonged. Those saved were obliged to travel a long way over desert sands, and through deep ravines. Notwithstanding their hardships, and the tediousness of their journey, they kept this child as a gift from God; watching over him with unceasing care and tenderness, and shielding him in every way from unnecessary suffering.

At length he was taken ill, and before they reached their destination he died. Heart-broken and sorrowful, in their desolation and distress, they appealed to Heaven, and knelt in prayer for the first time in their lives; thus proving they possess many traits which with culture would lead them to Christ.

To tell men more earnestly of the Cross, we must first prove our Christian motives. We have most satisfactory evidence in this, as in other ministrations of mercy, that by first taking care of the body, we can better reach the soul. By receiving the destitute and suffering sailor, and giving him raiment "without money and without price," the best emotions of his untutored heart are called forth; and cheering have been the tokens of a subsequent soul-conversion, though years perchance may have intervened. Who shall say that this glorious result was not the growth of a charitable beginning? Tears of grateful tenderness, called forth at such a moment, may fall inwardly upon the parched and barren soul, and bring into life and beauty the sweet blossoms of Christian Faith and Hope, which might otherwise remain forever dead and fruitless.

Hardened by customary indifference, or long neglect of those blessed things which alone have power to keep in life and verdure the spiritual nature, we can never know on earth the mighty impetus of a kind word, or gentle deed, to quicken the deadened pulses and regenerate the entire being.

The past year has been a very disastrous one to seamen. Many a proud ship with its freight of human souls, has foundered at sea, or been wrecked on the shore. In the darkness and stillness of midnight, amid the roaring of the tempest and the surging of the billows, the agonizing cry has gone up from the lips of many a drowning mariner,—
 "Save, Lord! or we perish." Far from the homes of their childhood, or the friends to whom they were dear, alone in the terror and gloom of the storm, have their eyes been closed in death. Over their lifeless forms the billows shall toss in their ceaseless flow, and chant their mournful requiem, until the Great Day when "God shall judge the world," and "the sea shall give up its dead." Engaged in so heroic a calling, and exposed to such peril, let us labor with re-

newed earnestness, and encourage them, not only with the work of our hands, but by our prayers.

What a field of usefulness lies before us now! While so large a class of persons have most commendably given both their time and money to advance the well-being of the soldier in his noble self-sacrifice for the honor of his country, let us labor unremittingly, as far as in us lies, to contribute aid and comfort to the other equally important branch of our dependence—the sailor.

Acknowledging with gratitude all past favors, let us trust to God to open the hearts of our friends still further to assist us in the good work, while we remember that—

“So many are
The sufferings which no human aid can reach,
It needs must be a duty doubly sweet
To heal the few we can.”

Respectfully submitted.

K. G. BOYD,

Secretary S. A. Society.

Boston, April 23, 1862.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

THE SAILORS' AID SOCIETY in account with E. C. MARLAND, Treasurer, for the year ending Easter, 1862:

DR.

For Flannel,	-	\$240.66
" Sewing Materials,	-	5.73
" Making Garments,	-	63.38
" Printing Notices,	-	8.00
" Stationery and Postage Stamps,	-	2.00
Cash on hand,	-	5.23
		\$325.00

CR.

By Balance,	-	\$53.75
" Subscriptions,	-	194.00
" Sunday School Children of St. Mark's Church,	-	23.00
" Ladies' of Christ's Church,	-	20.00
" Andover,	-	34.25
" Donations,	-	
		\$325.00

E. C. MARLAND, Treasurer.

CHAS. H. PARKER, Auditor.

The above account has been examined and found correct.

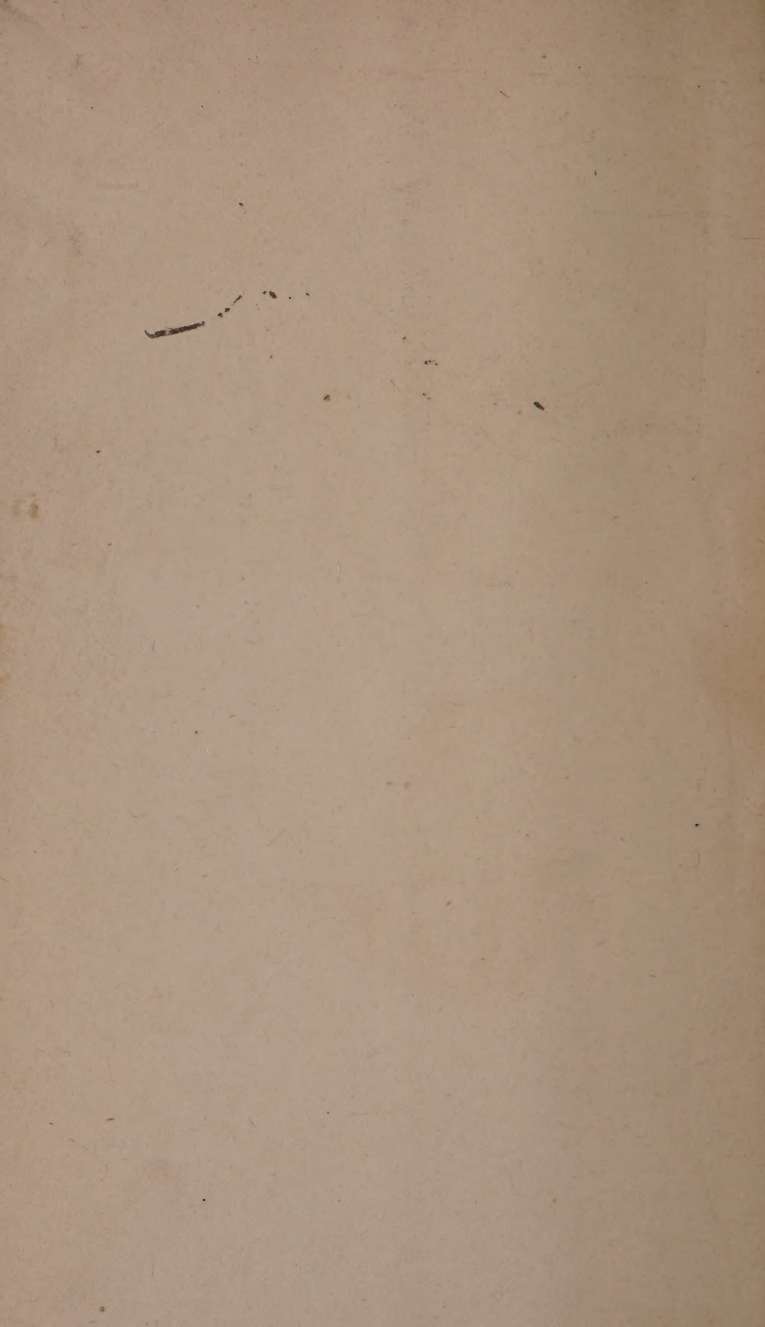
LIST OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS.

Alden, Mrs. Capt., Charlestown.
 Appleton, Mrs. William
 Bigelow, Mrs. H.
 Borland, Mrs. J. N.
 Bolles, Rev. Dr.
 Brooks, Mrs. William G.
 Burgess, Mrs. B. F.
 Boyd, Mrs. J. C.
 Babbitt, Mrs. E. S.
 Bradford, Miss Hannah
 Bulfinch, Mr. Theodore
 Carruth, Mrs. C. H.
 Cary, Miss Annie M.
 Clarke, Miss S. W.
 Chase, Miss Virginia
 Codman, Mrs. B. S.
 Coale, Mrs. W. E.
 Cobb, Miss Harriet
 Cushing, Mrs. H. W.
 Curtis, Mrs. John, Charlestown.
 Codman, Mrs. Robert
 Dadley, Mrs., Charlestown.
 Davis, Miss, Roxbury.
 Darrow, Mrs. C. S.
 Dana, Mrs. Dr., Cambridge.
 Darracott, Mrs. Franklin, Rox-
 bury.
 Damon, Mrs., Charlestown.
 Eaton, Mrs. Wm.
 Eldridge, Mrs. E. H.
 Ellis, Mrs. Jonathan

Gardner, Mrs. H. J.
 Gibson, Mrs. K.
 Greenleaf, Mr. R. C. [town.
 Hitchcock, Mrs. R. B. Charles-
 Hubbell, Mrs. Peter, "
 Homans, Mrs. Dr.
 Homans, Miss
 Jones, Mrs. Lewis
 Jordon, Mrs. Henry
 Kettell, Mrs. Geo. A., Charles-
 Kingsbury, Mrs. G. H. [town.
 Lambert, Mrs. T. R., Charles-
 Lee, Mrs. G. G. [town.
 Lewis, Miss Louisa M.
 Loring, Mrs. Elijah
 Loring, Miss Abby M.
 Lawton, Miss M. E.
 Lovejoy, Mrs. Joseph
 Labree, Mrs.
 Lambard, Mrs. C. A.
 Mason, Mrs. R. M.
 Mathews, Mrs. Nathan
 Morland, Mrs. W. W.
 Marland, Miss E. C., Roxbury.
 Miller, Mrs., Charlestown.
 Moores, Mrs. F. W., "
 Neale, Mrs. G. N.
 Nichols, Miss E. P.
 Parker, Mrs. F. J.
 Parker, Mrs. H. M., Cambridge.
 Parker, Mrs. M. J., "

Parker, Mrs. C. H.	Sheafe, Miss C. W.
Parker, Miss K. S.	Sheafe, Miss Charlotte
Parker, Mrs. M. S.	Simpson, Mrs. F. H.
Phillips, Mrs. John, Dorchester.	Smith, Mrs. C. A.
Phillips, Miss C.	Stevens, Mrs. Paran
Phillips, Miss S. L.	Taylor, Mrs. T. M.
Phillips, Miss S. W.	Tucker, Mrs. E. G.
Randall, Mrs. G. M.	Tudor, Mrs. Frederic
Rice, Mrs. A. H.	Tyler, Mrs. Edward
Renouf, Mrs. E. A., Keene, N.H.	Tarbell, Mrs. J. P.
Robinson, Mrs. J. P.	Turnbull, Mr. Geo.
Sayles, Mrs. M. F.	Upham, Mrs. J. B.
Shattuck, Mrs. Geo. C.	Wainwright, Mrs. P.
Sheafe. Mrs. William	Whall, Mrs. Sarah
Sheafe, Mrs. M. L.	Weld, Miss E. G., Jamaica Plain.
Sheafe, Miss M. L.	Walley, Mrs. S. H.
Sheafe, Miss M. H.	





(Dec., 1888, 20,000)

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